

## Looking Forward

- The GEF, in partnership with the Weatherization Assistance Program, is developing a two-year pilot program to assist low- to moderate-income households with the adoption of solar technology.
- The regulatory process for updating GEF regulations will be completed in order to improve the Fund's efficiency and effectiveness.
- New outreach materials are being developed to increase public awareness about the Green Energy Fund and all its program offerings.
- The Solar Schools Curriculum Program will be evaluated to update the program's learning objectives for teachers and students.
- A centralized online application database is being created in coordination with DNREC's Energy Efficiency Investment Fund.

## Project Spotlight



The Teen Warehouse, also known as The Warehouse, was among the first to benefit from the newly reopened Technology Demonstration Program and Research & Development Program in 2020. The Warehouse is located in the Riverside community of Wilmington. It provides a variety of youth-oriented educational, recreational and health programs that allow teens to explore their passions. The Warehouse is a place where young people can learn about clean energy, electric transportation and sustainable agriculture.

The GEF awarded The Warehouse two grants: \$125,742 from the Technology Demonstration Program and \$13,083 from the Research & Development Program.

These funds will be used to support the replacement of the facility's older diesel school bus with a cutting-edge, all-electric, zero emissions bus that can connect back to the local energy grid. This bus will also eliminate transportation access barriers The Warehouse faces. In addition, the funds will be used to help The Warehouse save money on energy costs and demonstrate its commitment to the environment by providing clean solar energy and storage of excess energy to meet its energy needs. This project will be used to offer young adults and local colleges the opportunity to work with solar technology and learn about its benefits.

*The Warehouse is ecstatic for this partnership, as it will allow us to provide transportation to teens in the city of Wilmington who are interested in participating in programming at our facility, including learning about green energy, but may not have the necessary means to get to and from the building.*

– Melody Phillips, Director of Operations



## Contact Us

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# Green Energy Fund




Annual Report  
2020



What is the Green Energy Fund?

For 21 years, the Green Energy Fund (GEF) has been transforming the Delaware market for renewable energy. The GEF was established by the Legislature in 1999. It is funded by Delmarva Power electric customers who are then eligible to access the GEF for renewable energy projects.

The GEF was created to accelerate deployment of renewable energy systems in Delaware. Why? Because renewable energy:

-  reduces emissions that are harmful to the environment and human health
-  improves energy security
-  benefits our local economy

GEF resources in 2020 were principally used to fund work under the Green Energy Program to help Delaware homeowners, businesses and nonprofit organizations meet their energy needs in a more sustainable way through the installation of renewable energy systems. Qualifying systems include solar photovoltaic (PV) systems, solar water heating systems, small wind turbines and geothermal heat pumps.

In addition, GEF resources were used to restart its Technology Demonstration and Research & Development programs for the first time in over a decade. These programs provide funding to projects that enhance new and emerging renewable energy technologies.



Sources and Uses of GEF Funds

The GEF collected \$2,764,480.61 in proceeds in 2020. By statute, up to 65 percent of funds can be directed to the Green Energy Program, up to 35 percent of funds can be directed to Research & Development and Technology Demonstration programs and up to 10 percent of funds can be used for administration, marketing and outreach.

The table below summarizes the funding of Green Energy Program projects in 2020.

2020 Green Energy Program Grants Paid

		Number of Projects	System Capacity	Funding Paid	Leveraged Funds
Residential	PV	248	2.23 MW	\$933,295.40	\$6,820,640
	Geo	29	142.5 tons	\$95,850.00	\$1,151,525
Commercial	PV	5	0.25 MW	\$67,563.50	\$521,546
Nonprofit	PV	5	0.16 MW	\$138,148.70	\$365,071
	Geo	1	5.0 tons	\$4,400.00	\$47,139
Totals		288		\$1,239,257.60	\$8,905,921

DNREC has been successful in using the Green Energy Program to leverage other investments in clean energy systems at \$7 of private investment to \$1 of program investment in 2020.

The table below summarizes the funding of Technology Demonstration and Research & Development projects in 2020.

2020 Technology Demonstration and Research & Development Projects

	Number of Projects	Amount Awarded	Leveraged Funds
Techology Demonstration Program	2	\$325,742	\$1,303,068
Research & Development Program	5	\$452,102	\$1,292,329
Totals	7	\$777,844	\$2,595,397



DNREC has been successful in using the Technology Demonstration and Research & Development programs to leverage other investments in clean energy systems at \$3 of private investment to \$1 of program investment.



Front cover: Residential PV installation in Sussex County (upper right); in the media room at The Teen Warehouse  
To the left: Residential PV installation in New Castle County; Nonprofit PV installation on The Lewes Senior Center  
On this page: Residential PV installation in New Castle County (above); Residential PV installation in Sussex County (right)  
Back page: Graduates-First Cohort; Teens at The Warehouse; Residential PV installation in Sussex County

Highlights

In 2020...

-  636 passenger vehicles taken off the road for a year
-  340 homes' electricity use for one year
- The Green Energy Program increased its photovoltaic (PV) rebate incentive rates. In response to the changing market and step-down in the federal investment tax credit, the amount per kW was increased, as well as the overall rebate cap. Delaware businesses and homeowners were able to take advantage of this new incentive in July 2020.
- The Technology Demonstration Program awarded two projects a combined total of \$325,742, supporting market potential demonstrations for new renewable energy technologies.
- The Research & Development Program awarded five projects a combined total of \$452,102, supporting the development of products or processes that directly relate to renewable energy technology.

Since 1999, the Green Energy Fund has:

- provided more than \$56 million for renewable energy projects installed in Delaware
- benefited 5,052 Delaware homeowners, businesses and nonprofit organizations
- supported local jobs at 25 solar installation companies and more than 35 geothermal installers
- helped increase Delaware's solar capacity from 8.6 MW in 2010 to over 130 MW in 2020
- awarded \$2.4 million to projects in the Technology Demonstration Program
- awarded \$1.6 million in Research & Development Program funding

